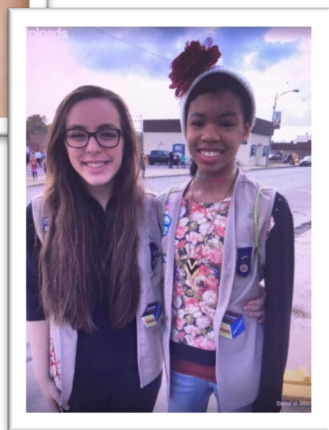




Morgan Belardo

Lansing, Kansas



Baking Memories

Morgan Belardo has been a Girl Scout for eight years and is in Troop 506 in Service Unit 661. She is currently a junior at Lansing High School.

Two years ago when Morgan's father was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's, she was disappointed by the lack of resources available for people her age. Morgan turned this frustration into action for her Gold Award project and created resources and raised awareness for families navigating this diagnosis.

Morgan worked with the Heart of America Alzheimer's Association to create a pamphlet and share her family's story in national publications as well as a YouTube video and held a "Sweet Exchange" event to educate and raise money for Alzheimer's research. She also lobbied her Kansas Governor and received a proclamation naming November as Alzheimer's Awareness and caregiver month. Through her Gold Award project Morgan learned how to not view herself as a victim but take her situation and use it to help others.

Because of Girl Scouts, I have had so many new opportunities and have met so many new people throughout the years; it has let me be creative in my own way and even allowed me to get outside of my comfort zone. I'm so glad I joined Girl Scouts. It has created strong friendships and unforgettable memories.